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WFO [109-50] (S)(u)

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"FIDEL -- NEWEST DICTATOR IN WESTERN HEMISPHERE"

"GRACIAS FIDEL -- KRUSHCHEV"

"MARXISM NOW TAUGHT IN CUBA WITH CONSENT OF CASTRO"

It was observed following individuals also present at above picket:

RAFAEL del PINO

MM 639-S

PEDRO de MESCONES, President, Pan American Anti-Communist Association, New York City

At 6:30 P.M. approximately 500 pro-CASTRO followers observed at Washington National Airport, Military Air Transport Service. Very few were carrying pro-CASTRO placards. Approximately four of above anti-CASTRO pickets present carrying placards. CASTRO airplane arrived approximately 9:30 P.M. He was convoyed to Cuban Embassy, Washington, D. C., and after conversing on sidewalk with followers, entered Embassy. Captain MICHAEL J. MAHANEY, MPD, telephonically advised WFO 10:05 P.M. no incidents had occurred and CASTRO indicated desire to go to bed.

On 4/16/59 approximately 25 anti-CASTRO people commenced picketing vicinity of Statler Hotel, Washington, D. C., at 12:15 P.M. under leadership of del PINO. I. IRVING DAVIDSON observed in vicinity of picketing.

[CASTRO arrived Statler 12:30 P.M. for luncheon with Undersecretary of State CHRISTIAN HERTER. No incidents at that time.] At approximately 1:00 P.M. del PINO observed (S)(u) in heated argument in Spanish language with unidentified Latin American male. Argument culminated in exchange of blows, which was quickly broken up by Captain MAHANEY, MPD, and unidentified MPD lieutenant. Pickets left area 1:15 P.M. without further incident.

CASTRO departed Statler Hotel approximately 2:30 P.M. arriving Cuban Embassy approximately 2:40 P.M. (S)(u)

PSI JORGE PERRAMON y SPENCER telephonically advised (S)(u) SA DONALD HOETING night of 4/15/59 he was present at Washington National Airport for arrival of CASTRO, which occurred as above. Stated no incidents other than name calling between pro- and anti-CASTRO groups.

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(1) [SPENCER] on 4/16/59 telephonically advised SA [X] HOETING he had accompanied CASTRO group [to Embassy] and while at Embassy had spoken with [his very good friend ERNESTO BETANCOURT] former CS NF [1035-S] who is presently Managing Director in Bank of Foreign Trade, and FELIPE PAZOS, President, National Bank of Cuba. PAZOS and [BETANCOURT] stated economic situation in Cuba very bad at present and it is not known what that country will do after the present sugar crop has been harvested. They agreed that CASTRO's popularity had waned briefly after his successful revolution but his popularity at present was increasing within Cuba.

On 4/16/59 MM 639-S advised SA RICHARD B. KELLOGG he had been at the above picketing of White House 4/15/59 in company of del PINO, MESONES and I. IRVING DAVIDSON. At that time ANGEL PEREZ VIDAL, whom he described as head of the palace guard in Havana, Cuba, stopped in an automobile accompanied by four males, names unknown. As previously reported, VIDAL is personal friend of informant and he hailed informant and told him to get away from pickets and get in the automobile. Del PINO protested later, telling informant he feared informant would be shot. Informant agreed to go with VIDAL and when questioned about his actions with del PINO, he told VIDAL that he was obtaining information concerning del PINO for RAUL CASTRO, brother of FIDEL. This apparently satisfied VIDAL. When later questioned by del PINO concerning VIDAL, he stated that he had told del PINO that VIDAL was well known to him and he could ascertain VIDAL'S ACTIVITIES for del PINO. He stated that he did not know whether this incident has altered the trust placed in him by del PINO. Informant believes, however, he has convinced both sides that he can be trusted.

Informant stated DAVIDSON arranged for hiring of pickets for del PINO and payment for same. Pickets obtained through FRANK de BROUSE, Teamsters Joint Council No. 55, Washington, D. C. DAVIDSON mentioned he was having breakfast with JIMMY HOFFA "shortly;" however, no indication HOFFA connected with CASTRO visit.

VIDAL told informant he, VIDAL, interested in organizing people to break up anti-CASTRO picket lines. Informant argued against this, stating this would play into hands of del PINO. VIDAL agreed and apparently forgot this subject. It is noted that MESONES on 4/15/59 indicated VIDAL to bring pro-CASTRO pickets from New York City. VIDAL did not seem to know anything concerning this when questioned by informant.

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WFO [109-50] (X)(Q)

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Informant stated DAVIDSON asked if MESONES could use a "couple" cases of eggs for his pickets 4/17/59. MESONES would not agree to use eggs.

DAVIDSON further told del PINO that DAVIDSON could obtain 500 Israeli machine guns for del PINO. It is not known by informant whether del PINO will accept this offer.

Informant stated del PINO presently out of funds and cannot pay for further newspaper advertisements. del PINO has written unknown person Miami for funds. Was questioned re possibility this person ROLANDO MASFERRE, former Cuban Senator, but informant did not know of any connection between del PINO and this person.

Informant stated MESONES and del PINO brought together by DAVIDSON. Informant feels del PINO not aware that MESONES is pro-TRUJILLO, as well as anti-CASTRO. MESONES further mentioned that an unidentified Jewish youth group would possibly come to Washington, D. C., from New York City, date, number involved unknown.

Informant could furnish no information re JORGE MECALLING GARCIA, FRANCISCO MECALLING GARCIA, LUIS de CASTROVERDE. Knew nothing re ANTOLIN FALCON and group mentioned in New York City teletype 4/14/59.

Photographs of LUIS LIMA and ROGELIO LUNA which have been furnished to MPD will be exhibited to informant.

ENRIQUE PACHECHO COLMENARES, WFO PSI re Venezuelan matters, has furnished information set forth below and in airtel 4/15/59 indicating he will be of value in coverage of anti-CASTRO activities. On 4/16/59 COLMENARES contacted SA ROBERT C. BYRNES, advising there would be a meeting of anti-CASTRO people at Grabiel's (tailoring shop), 2914 14th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., at 8:00 P.M. 4/16/59. Purpose of meeting relating to current visit of CASTRO to U. S. as well as discussion of purchase of equipment to use against current Cuban regime. As set forth in WFO airtel 4/15/59 Grabiel's is operated by ANIVAL DELGADO, former BATISTA intelligence officer, Cuban Embassy, Washington, D.C. Others expected to attend this meeting are:

Former Cuban Military Attaché JOSE (BELIO) JERRER
Former Cuban Air Attaché, Lieutenant Colonel
JORGE GUTIERREZ

Former Cuban Naval Attaché MANUEL REBOZO

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